

	Application Number	10/731,683
	Filing Date	December 8, 2003
	First Named Inventor	BERTOLERO, ART
	Art Unit	Unassigned
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
	Attorney Docket Number	021063-000510US
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	PCT Search Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application		4 Reference Copies
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.	

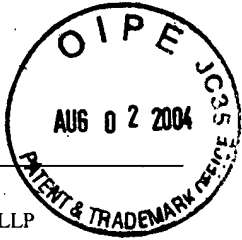
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual name	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP	
	James M. Heslin	Reg. No. 29,541
Signature		
Date	7/30/04	

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On

7/30/04

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:


Tiffany Wu

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ART BERTOLERO et al.

Application No.: 10/731,683

Filed: December 8, 2003

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR
CARDIAC SURGERY

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Also enclosed is a copy of the Search Report corresponding to PCT Application No. PCT/US03/39054.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement.

However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heslin
Reg. No. 29,541

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

Complete if Known

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	US-6,013,027	01-11-2000	Khan et al.	
	AB	US-6,036,641	03-14-2000	Taylor et al.	
	AC	US-6,338,712 B2	01-15-2002	Spence et al.	
	AD	US-6,338,738 B1	01-15-2002	Bellotti et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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